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Naval Postgraduate School (U.S.). Maritime Defense and Security Research Program

"To dissuade, detect, and defeat threats as early and as far from U.S. borders as possible."

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SITREP

THE NPS MARITIME DOMAIN PROTECTION NEWSLETTER

Cost efficient barge transportation

Scott City, Missouri, Fire Department

RMSC personnel and Lt. Martin

Lt. Martin operating a monitor aboard the *Campbell Rose*

The Port Report - Scott City, Missouri and Portland, Oregon

MDP Intern Bruce Martin, a Lieutenant with the Marina Department of Public Safety, continues his thesis research with visits to Missouri and Oregon to exchange information and assess port security issues.

Lt. Martin recently traveled to the river ports in Scott City, Missouri, south of Cape Girardeau on the Mississippi River. Though these waters, located in the heartland of America, are relatively static, their problems are very dynamic and as much a concern to the citizens of the United States as the mega-container ports of Los Angeles/Long Beach, California, or Charleston, South Carolina.

Barge transportation is the cheapest mode of transportation available, which is one of the reasons the nation's rivers are so vital. According to USCG Maritime Security Master Chief Beverly, of the Maritime Security Unit in Paducah, Kentucky, a two-barge tow loaded to its maximum capacity of 60,000 bbls of product is equal to 80 plus railroad cars or 300 plus truck loads. An intentional disruption of port activities, such as by a terrorist attack, would be extremely detrimental to both the individual port and related activities. For example, if terrorists were to dump a large amount of chemical pollutants or some kind of biological hazard into any Mississippi River port, traffic would be blocked all the way to the Port of New Orleans. The need to further address security issues at such ports beyond what currently exists is absolutely critical.

Traveling north to Oregon, Lt. Martin also visited the Port of Portland. He attended a symposium hosted by the Regional Maritime Security Coalition, (RMSC)/Columbia and Snake River Complex, held at Portland State University.

Using wireless fidelity (WiFi) technology provided by EZ Wireless, the RMSC has the capacity to almost instantaneously monitor locations such as port storage areas, railroad yards, and barges on the Columbia River. RMSC also has the ability to monitor high-risk locations such as the Umatilla, Oregon, chemical weapons depot. The RMSC members in the region who can access these communication networks ultimately could cover the entire Columbia and Snake River Transportation Corridor, providing a tremendous security advantage and serving as a strategic model for the rest of the country. According to RMSC Manager James Townley, a retired USCG Captain of the Port from Charleston, South Carolina, "It is obvious that such a system benefits everyone and that it does all it can to keep the ports open, and, therefore, sustain the economy."

For further details, please contact Lt. Martin at bmartin@ci.marina.ca.us.

Language Analysis and Homeland Security

L/R: FBI Special Agent Eric La Moe, MDP Intern Bruce Martin, Dr. Jack Hermansen, Language Analysis Systems, Inc., and NPS Professor Mark Stevens

Dr. John C. Hermansen, CEO, Language Analysis Systems, Inc., recently presented a lecture on the subject of using automated name searches as a means of locating information about particular individuals.

He addressed the limitations of current name search systems, and what can be done to work around those weaknesses, focusing on how names of people from outside the Anglo-American culture differ from the typical American name, using Arabic, Korean and Chinese names as examples. Attendees learned how to recognize when name forms are likely to refer to the same individual, and how to improve their search queries for greater confidence in the results. Dr. Hermansen provided attendees, including FBI Special Agent Eric LaMoe, Salinas Police Lieutenants Kelly McMillin and Tracy Molfino, and NPS faculty members Dr. Magdi Kamel and Dr. Thomas Huynh, with a series of demonstrations which traced randomly requested names to their cultural roots.

Mr. Mark Stevens, P.E., Director of the MDP Research Group, stated, "In our continuing efforts to improve homeland security, a focus on individuals as sources of information or potential threats has become increasingly important. Language analysis is a key intelligence tool which can greatly enhance our ability to make sure we have identified individuals correctly, and perhaps more importantly, not misidentified or overlooked an individual who could be a potential threat because of our inadequate understanding of foreign cultures and language. I'm surprised more intelligence organizations are not taking advantage of the additional insights that language analysis and name searching can provide."

Dr. Hermansen is the CEO and co-founder of Language Analysis Systems, Inc. (http://www.las-inc.com/), a provider of knowledge-based, multicultural name recognition solutions for both commercial and government agencies that require accuracy and integrity when accessing customer records or other lists of names. Dr. Hermansen's expertise in name recognition helped INS special agents track the 9-11 terrorists to their Florida location in 2001.